

**South-Western City Schools
Minutes – Regular Meeting
February 21, 2024**

The South-Western City Board of Education met in regular session on February 21, 2024, 8:32 a.m. with the following members present:

Chris Boso
Denise D’Angelo Steele
Julie Liskany
Kelli Martindale
Camille Peterson

Others Present:

Bill Wise, Superintendent
Jamie Lusher, Deputy Superintendent
Hugh Garside, Treasurer
Brian Bowser, Assistant Superintendent - Curriculum
Bryan Mulvany, Executive Director - Technology
Evan Debo, Executive Director - Communications
Dan Girard, Executive Director – Elementary/Intermediate Schools
Erik Shuey, Executive Director – High Schools
Cheryl Spain, Executive Director – Middle Grades
Christine Galvin, Director – Career/Technical Programs
Omar Tarazi, Attorney At Law
Lori Balough, Director – Certified Personnel
Matt DeCastro, Director – Classified Personnel
Mark Meadows, Director – Property Services
Rob Moore, Director – Technology
Ed Kennedy, Director – EL
Nicole Tyo, Director – Special Education

24-34 **Ms. Martindale moved** that the Board of Education approve the agenda as presented for the February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting.

Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Mrs. Martindale, Aye;	Mrs. Peterson, Aye;	Mrs. D’Angelo Steele, Aye;
Ms. Liskany, Aye;	Mr. Boso, Aye.	

Motion Carried

1. **8:32 a.m. - Opening Comments and Planning Calendar Review – Dr. Bill Wise**
 - a. Dr. Wise opened the meeting with expectations of what the purpose of the meeting is and went over the following:
 - i. Planning calendar
 - ii. Vital statistics
2. **8:54 a.m. - SWOT Analysis – Dr. Jamie Lusher**
 - i. Dr. Lusher lead a discussion of the District’s Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats/Fear.
3. **9:23 a.m. – Break**
4. **9:35 a.m. - Board Operations and Norms – Omar Tarazi**

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- a. Omar Tarazi discussed Board Operations and Norms
 - i. Mr. Tarazi provided the Board with perspectives of different types of Board's and how they make decisions and policy.
 - ii. Mr. Tarazi provided an overview of how to manage policy in three different ways
 - 1. Superintendent Committee
 - 2. Standing Committees (Columbus City School model)
 - 3. Staff Committees
 - iii. Dr. Wise stated that the choice of structure shouldn't limit the Board's ability to make progress in the items they want to address.
 - b. Mr. Tarazi suggested that the Board should meet more frequently to be able to get on the same page and get more knowledge due to short time that each member has been on the Board.
 - i. Mr. Tarazi stated that the creation of committees could create a greater sense of transparency, due to the public nature of the committee structure.
 - ii. Mr. Tarazi mentioned the risk of bringing more people into the discussions.
 - c. Mr. Boso stated that he felt didn't always know what he would be getting into until the day he would come to the Board meeting.
 - d. Dr. Wise stated that the second Board meeting of the month is structured to provide more opportunities to discuss items.
 - e. Ms. D'Angelo Steele stated that OSBA supported the concept of creating committees with minutes for more transparency for Finance, Curriculum and Policy. Ms. D'Angelo Steele stated that she feels that it's worth the effort to provide the Board an opportunity to have a committee structure. Ms. D'Angelo Steele stated that she doesn't feel that this is a big shift from what other District's do.
 - f. Ms. Liskany stated that she could see a mixture of both types of committees. She stated that many of these processes have been in place for a long time, but feels like another offshoot of the current process involving more inputs from the community.
 - g. Mr. Boso stated that he doesn't like the Board's inability to discuss topics with the community during meetings.
 - h. Mr. Tarazi stated that there are several models out there that provide the Board's ability to get feedback from the community on topics.
 - i. Ms. D'Angelo Steele stated that she would like to start an hour earlier for the March 11, 2024 meeting to start discussions on these new items.
 - j. Ms. D'Angelo Steele stated that the pressing policy at hand is the Nursing policy, but she wanted to stress that there are other policies that she feels would need addressed and doesn't want to lose sight of how that would work structurally.
 - k. Mr. Tarazi discussed the mechanics of how long current requests to change policy takes to change policy. Mr. Tarazi stated that he would be available if individual Board members would like to look at specific policies for Mr. Tarazi to research.
 - l. Dr. Wise stated that he will bring items to the Board where he hears consistently from at least three Board members to discuss.
- 5. 10:21 a.m. - Community Survey Results – Evan Debo**
- a. Mr. Debo provided an overview of the timeline for 2023 through 2027
 - b. Mr. Debo discussed how the District is keeping in contact with the community to ensure how the community perceives the District.
 - c. Mr. Debo reviewed and provided insight on the community survey prepared by Paul Fallon and Associate's.
 - d. Ms. Liskany asked how many of our schools have a scrolling marquis in front of them for informational purposes.
 - i. Dr. Wise stated that we have had poor luck with these systems working and also have had zoning issues where we were not allowed to put them up.

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- ii. Ms. Liskany stated that she could see this as a good tool to communicate, but also understands that there are barriers to using these.
- e. Mr. Tarazi questioned if we have a mechanism to ask questions to current parents to see what their thoughts on issues are.
 - i. Mr. Debo stated that the District does have the ability to do this through our infinite campus product.
- f. Ms. Martindale stated that she is disappointed in the lack of knowledge our community members has in our District based on the survey results. She would like to get our message out in a more significant way.
- g. Ms. Liskany stated that she is disappointed by the survey results, but has an understanding of why the results are the way they are.
- h. Ms. D'Angelo Steele stated that the survey is a good baseline since it has been done consistently over time, but she feels that the District can provide some additional surveys on other topics.

6. 11:01 a.m. – Break

7. 11:07 a.m. – Curriculum – Dr. Brian Bowser

- a. Dr. Bowser kicked off the discussion of curriculum with three distinct goals
 - i. Curriculum Adoption
 - ii. Career/Tech Programing
 - iii. Staffing
- b. Curriculum Adoption
 - i. Dr. Bowser went through the four phases of the curriculum adoption process
 - ii. Dr. Bowser went through the curriculum adoption timeline by academic subject
 - iii. Dr. Bowser discussed the inputs within the current committee process
- c. Career/Tech Programing
 - i. Ms. Galvin provided an overview of the District's Career/Tech programing within the District.
 - ii. Ms. Galvin also invited the Board to come to the Career Academy for a tour of the programs she would love to have them. Ms. Galvin also stated that if anyone hears of a company that would like to partner with the District, to let her know and she would see if it is a viable option.
 - iii. Ms. Galvin provided a listing of the 17 two year career/tech programs and the two senior only programs that the District offers.
 - iv. Ms. Galvin previewed the new HVAC program that will be coming next school year. Ms. Galvin encouraged the Board to go view the new space created by the Career Academy addition for this program to be offered.
 - v. Ms. Liskany questioned what we do with students that apply for the programs, but don't get in.
 - 1. Ms. Galvin stated that the students are allowed to reapply for a second choice program or a senior only program.
 - 2. Ms. Galvin is working on increasing capacity to allow more students to participate.
- d. Staffing
 - i. Dr. Bowser provided an overview of the support staff positions that serve our students including, but not limited to:
 - 1. Academic Supports
 - a. Adaptive Physical Education Teachers
 - b. Aides
 - c. Graduation coach
 - d. I Know I Can supports
 - e. Intervention Specialists
 - f. Literacy Coaches
 - g. Literacy Support Teachers

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- h. Math Instructional Coaches
 - i. Occupational Therapists
 - j. School Psychologists
 - k. School Counselors
 - l. Speech Therapists
 - m. Physical Therapists
 - n. Gifted Intervention Specialists
- 2. Non Academic
 - a. Attendance Success Mentors
 - b. Buckeye Ranch Integrated Mental Health Providers
 - c. Clinical Aides
 - d. Communities in School Liaisons
 - e. Med Monitors
 - f. Nurses
 - g. Second Step Coordinators
 - h. Social Workers
 - i. Student Support Liaisons
 - j. Truancy Officers
 - k. YMCA Partners
 - l. Housing Stabilization Coordinator
- ii. Dr. Bowser also discussed the partnerships with outside agencies that serve our students including, but not limited to:
 - 1. They Buckeye Ranch
 - 2. Directions for Youth
 - 3. Nationwide Children’s Hospital
 - 4. Charlie Health
 - 5. Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) models
 - 6. Tier 1 Behavioral Support
 - 7. Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI)
 - 8. Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)
 - a. Ms. D’Angelo Steele asked if the District is tracking the success of these programs and if they are effective.
 - i. Dr. Bowser stated they are collecting data, but because certain disruptive inputs can skew the results of what is deemed effective.
 - b. Ms. Liskany asked how these systems were picked to use in the District.
 - i. Dr. Bowser stated that each building use different techniques within these system “umbrellas” that work for their building
- iii. Dr. Wise provided a list of positions provided by Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds that the District does not have funding in place to support.
 - 1. Dr. Wise stated that the forecast includes funding for roughly 21 positions, but the District currently has roughly 64 positions that were funded by the ESSER funding.

8. 12:00 p.m. – Lunch

9. 12:35 p.m. - Executive Session

24-35 **Ms. Liskany moved** that the Board of Education adjourn to Executive Session according to Policy 0166 to consider the appointment or employment of public employees and prepare for negotiations with public employees.

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Ms. Martindale seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Liskany, Aye; Ms. Martindale, Aye; Mrs. Peterson, Aye;
Mrs. D'Angelo Steele, not present; Mr. Boso, Aye.

Motion Carried

The Board of Education adjourned to Executive Session at 12:420 p.m.; they reconvened the meeting at 1:55 p.m. with all attending members present.

Roll Call:

Mrs. D'Angelo Steele, Present; Ms. Liskany, Present; Ms. Martindale, Present;
Mrs. Peterson, Present; Mr. Boso, Present.

Motion Carried

10. 1:56 p.m. - Enrollment and Staffing for 2024-2025 and Extra-Curricular Activities

- a. Ms. Balough provided an overview of projected enrollment and staffing for the 2024-25 school year.
- b. Dr. Wise discussed how the District utilizes class size caps to staff buildings.
- c. Dr. Wise discussed the possibility of adding extracurricular items in the future and the impact of Title IX.

11. 2:22 p.m. - Construction/ESSER/PI/Technology

- a. Dr. Wise discussed the potential for a third segment in the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission to construct two replacement high schools for Grove City and Westland High School.
 - i. Bond issue in 2026
 - ii. Design process in 2027
 - iii. Construction begins in 2028
 - iv. Building completion in 2031
- b. Mr. Meadows provided an overview of the past and upcoming projects that will be funded from the Permanent Improvement Fund and ESSER Funds.

12. 2:49 p.m. – Break

13. 3:00 p.m. – Finance

- a. Mr. Garside provided an overview on how the Five-Year Forecast ties to the Cash Balance Report that is provided every month at the Regular Board of Education meeting.
- b. Mr. Garside provided an update on the current status of the Five-Year Forecast and what is anticipated to happen by the end of the Fiscal Year.
- c. Mr. Garside provided an overview of “other” funds on the Cash Balance Report and why it is important to know what the purpose of the specific funds are.
- d. The Board discussed instructional fee accounts and discussed removing the \$10 instructional fee for the 2024-25 school year.
- e. The Board discussed the Pay-to-Participate fees and discussed making all categories \$50 per level per sport with a \$200 family cap fee. The Board also discussed eliminating the club fee all together.

14. Supporting Materials

- a. The document below was used to present all the material for the visioning session.

Board Visioning 2024 Master Slides.pdf (15,935 KB)

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15. 3:45 p.m. - Recap, Timeline & Priority Adjustments and Closing Thoughts

- a. The Board discussed the potential to have a Special Meeting on March 20th from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to discuss Board policy items that they would like to start working on.
- b. Dr. Wise asked the Board to send him or Mr. Boso the policy items they would like to have discussed at the March 20th meeting.
- c. Dr. Wise asked the Board provide three things on a sticky note:
 - i. What they need more information on.
 - ii. What they learned
 - iii. What they don't understand.

24-36 Ms. Martindale moved that the meeting be adjourned

Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ms. Martindale, Aye;

Mrs. Peterson, Aye;

Ms. Liskany, Aye;

Mrs. D'Angelo Steele, Aye;

Mr. Boso, Aye.

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Chris Boso
President

Hugh W. Garside, Jr.
Treasurer